Safe drinking water in Andhra Pradesh

*302. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for safe drinking water in Warangal, Prakasam, Mahboobnagar and Khammam district was sent by the Andhra Pradesh Government to the Central Government in 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cost of these projects;

(d) whether these proposals were sent to the Central Government for technical and financial clearance;

(e) if so, whether clearance has not been provided so far; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and by when clearance is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 6 projects from the four districts of the State at a total cost of Rs. 371.54 crore have been received.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Two projects pertaining to Khammam district at a cost of 4.87 crore and one in respect of Warrangal district at a cost of Rs. 15.76 crore have been approved. The State Government has been requested to modify the project proposals in respect of Prakasham and Mahaboobnagar districts. Response from the State Government is awaited.

DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Sir, I thank the Minister for approving the two projects pertaining to Khammam district at a cost of Rs. 4.87 crores and to Warangal district at a cost of Rs. 15.76 crores.

This is the answer given by the Minister. For another two projects, modifications were asked for. I would like to know what kind of modifications were asked for, other than these four, in Krishna district and also in West Godavari district? One is Rs. 6.91 crores, one is Rs. 19.86 crores and one Rs. 32 crores. These three projects were also sent by the State Government for approval. Here, the main reason is brackish water whereby many villages cannot have drinking water. In that case, Sir, the Minister did not mention about these projects. I would like to know from the Minister whether these projects are also going to be considered. At the same time what kind of modifications were asked for regarding Mahboobnagar project and Kanigiri project?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, our hon. Member elicited information regarding the four projects. Regarding these four projects, in 1995 we received six projects. Out of these six projects we approved three projects. The answer is already given. Regarding Mahboobnagar and Prakasam projects, our team of officers visited Prakasam district and Mahboobnagar district and other districts also in the month of October.

Sir, some clarifications were required such as distance from the sea, salinity, etc. All the projects are now under process and we are very anxious to sanction all the projects submitted by them, particularly those projects relating to areas where you have problems pertaining to fluoride, salinity, arsenic, etc. Then, the Andhra Pradesh Government has sent 21 projects pertaining to Krishna district. We received 21 projects from them in 1995. Out of them, we approved six projects and the remaining projects are in various stages of examination. Out of those projects, two projects pertained to Prakasam and Mahboobnagar districts. The cost of the Mahboobnagar project is Rs. 246 crores. We have asked for further information from the State Government. We want to push this project for multilateral assistance. The modified proposal is yet to be received from the State Government.

DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Sir, regarding the Kanigiri project, I want to say that the problem is not that of salinity. The problem is one of source of water. The State Government has proposed Nagarjunasagar as the source of water. The Central Government is suggesting some other source which, we feel, cannot cater to the needs of the local people. I would request the hon. Minister to approve the proposal regarding Nagarjunasagar being the source of water, instead of the source of water in the local area.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my second supplementary is this. There have been many such projects in Andhra Pradesh which were approved earlier, crores of rupees have been spent, but those projects are still not being utilised for various reasons. For example, the Darsi project was constructed ten years ago at a cost of Rs. 30 crores or so, but it is not being utilised. Such projects are there in other places also. For example, a project was constructed in Addanki area but no water was given. Crores of rupees were spent. A tank was built, but there was no overhead tank. Pipelines were laid but the villagers there could not draw even a drop of water. So, this has been happening there. Is there any information with the Government about such projects? What kind of plans are there to remedy this kind of a situation?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the introduction of proposals put forward by the Rajiv Gandhi Technology Mission, since 1992-93, we have sanctioned 34 projects for the State of Andhra Pradesh at a total cost of Rs. 291.47 crores. Out of this, we have released Rs. 116 crores so far. Then, out of these 34 projects, 10 projects have been completed. The remaining projects are at various stages. There are 274 quality-problem-habitations in the Kanigiri project area, costing Rs. 71 crores. In the Prakasam project area, there are 176 quality-problem-habitations in Markapur, costing Rs. 32.65 crores. The Government of India is very anxious to sanction these projects. We have asked for further information from the State Government. Within a short period, all these projects will be cleared.

DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Sir, I am not asking about sanctions. I am asking about non-utilisation of the projects which were constructed a long time back and which are not being utilised for various reasons.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, as I said earlier, we are sanctioning all those projects which have been submitted by the State Government after modifications, etc. Regarding the source of drinking water, if they suggest any other source, we will examine it and provide funds for that. If any particular project has become defunct due to problems in the source of water, you please write to us and we will examine it and take action.

DR. Y. RADHAKRISHNA MURTY: Mr. Chairman, the main question to which answer was given by the Minister relates to Khammam district from which I hail. About 310 villages in Khammam district were identified as having groundwater with flourine above the acceptable levels. I want to know whether this point has come to the notice of the Minister. Secondly, eight major drinking water projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 160 crores have been drawn up and they are in the pipeline. I would like to know from the Minister whether these projects would be sanctioned shortly.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: In the year 1995, we received two projects in respect of Khammam district. In the last two months, we sanctioned those two projects. No project is pending with the Government of India as of now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri S.B. Chavan. Mr. Chavan, the question relates to Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, I happened

to have some relation with Andhra Pradesh. My entire education was in Andhra pradesh. That is why I know some of the areas. There are a number of areas which are drought-prone in Andhra Pradesh. One such are is Anantapur. Anantapur is a chronically drought-prone area. In most of the areas, you require assistance of either the World Bank or the Government of India or the local people. However, there is a non-governmental organisation which is spending the entire money in respect of a drinking water project.

It is waiting for allocation of a water source from which water could be drawn and supplied. This organisation must have spent about Rs. 300 crores by now. This project intends to cover the entire district which is chronically drought-prone. I would like to know why the Andhra Pradesh Government has not been able to indicate a source of water.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this project is purely a private project. We are not giving any amount. Sri Sri Bhagwan Satya Sai is providing the entire money required for that project. This is being looked afterby the A.P. Government. We are only providing whatever is required. They required some technology and we provided it. That is the information available with us regarding this project. The entire money is being provided by Baba only. The State Government has lent the services of a Chief Engineer and some other officials to look after that project.

डा० बाई लक्ष्मी प्रसाद: महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का प्रथम भाग यह है कि आन्ध्र प्रदेश में बाढ़ और तूफान के कारण जो परियोजनाएं बर्बाद हो गई हैं उन परियोजनाओं के लिए सरकार क्या-क्या कदम उठा रही है?

मेरे प्रश्न का दूसरा भाग है कि गुंटूर जिले में समुद्र के तटवर्ती प्रान्तों में ब्रेकिश वाटर पोल्यूटेड जो गांव हैं मरुपूरीवारी पालेम और करला पालेम, क्या केन्द्र सरकार के पास इनके सुधार करने की कोई योजना है, यह मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूं?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, due to the recent cyclone, some sources of water got damaged. The Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 2 crores as a special grant for stabilisation. It is Rs. 1.25 crores in respect of East Godavari district and Rs. 75 lakhs in respect of West Godavari district. The scheme relating to West Godavari district will cover about 100 villages having the salinity problem. We have also sanctioned two projects in respect of Krishna district. These projects also relate to problems such as salinity, arsenic, etc. We are giving top priority to the drinking water problems such as salinity, arsenic, iron-content, etc. As soon as the reports are submitted to us, we will take steps for sanction of those projects. It is not only for Andhra Pradesh. Recently we sanctioned a very big project. Arsenic water is a great problem in West Bengal. Recently we sanctioned an arsenic project worth about Rs. 200 crores for West Bengal. There is no shortage of funds. Any project regarding any problem, *i.e.*, arsenic, salinity, iron content, etc., will receive our immediate attention. We will take steps to sanction such projects immediately.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Narendra Mohan. Dr. Mohan, the question relates to Andhra Pradesh.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: सभापति जी, यह बात सही है कि आंध्र प्रदेश की पेयजल समस्या पर चर्चा चल रही है। लेकिन यह समस्या इतनी गंभीर है कि इसका केवल किसी विशेष राज्य से ही संबंध नहीं है, अन्य राज्यों से भी इसका संबंध है। आंध्र प्रदेश की समस्या गंभीर है, यह अपने आप में सही है। लेकिन ऐसी ही समस्या राजस्थान की भी है, ऐसी ही समस्या उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की भी है और जो योजनायें बनाई गई हैं....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, you have to put another question I know it is an important question.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जिस प्रकार की योजनायें आंध्र प्रदेश के लिए बनाई गई हैं क्या ऐसी ही योजनायें अन्य राज्यों के लिए आपके पास है?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have visited U.P. and reviewed the entire drinking water situation. There is a lot of opening balance money with Uttar Pradesh. Money is no problem for U.P. There is not a single scheme pending with the Union Government. For any requirement, prepare a project and send it to the Government of India, we will look into it and we will sanction it. At present, there is a lot of money with the U.P. Government. Even this year we are releasing Rs. 1.33 crores under ARWS. They have a lot of money as opening balance. Money is no problem with regard to U.P. This is the information available.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: Do you mean to say that there is no problem for other States also?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: For U.P. *(interruptions)*

श्री शिवचरण सिंह: राजस्थान का क्या होगा जहां पानी है ही नहीं।...**(व्यवधान)**...

राजस्थान जहां रेगिस्तान है, जहां पानी है ही नहीं वहां का क्या होगा?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: U.P.'s unused money should be given to A.P. *(interruptions)*

श्री शिवचरण सिंह: यू०पी० को दे दिया और राजस्थान के लिए क्या करेंगे?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call another Member. *(interruptions)* I have called another Member.

SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, part (a) of my question is, in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh acquaculture has developed in a large way. Saline water and brackish water have seeped into most of the drinking water sources. In the coastal areas mostly fishermen community and weaker sections live. They are suffering without pure drinking water. Is there any special programme or project with the Central Government?

Part (b) of my question is, there is Kolleru lake surrounded by West Godavari and Krishna. There are 145 villages in that area. Kolleru lake had pure water previously. Since 20 years the industrial pollution has completely polluted it. There is no drinking water source for most of the villages. I want to know if there is any special project with the Government of India.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already mentioned about salinity projects for each district. Regarding West Godavari, one proposal for Narasapur area costing Rs. 15.43 crores came. Only one project is pending with the Government of India with regard to West Godavari project. Regarding Kolleru area also one proposal came costing Rs. 5.68 crores. We will clear that project also. There are two projects pending with the Government of India with regard to coastal areas. We will clear these two projects also. So far no other project is pending.

SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: What about Krishna District?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Kolleur project comes under Krishna District only.

Review of ongoing projects relating to infrastructure and Core Sector

303. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the status of major on going projects in the field of infrastructure and core sector;

(b) if so, the brief particulars of such projects, Ministry/Department-wise, with the original and the latest cost estimate, the original target date and the latest estimated target date for completion;

(c) the reasons for the cost and time over run; and